

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
U.S. EMBASSY BAMAKO  
NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTINUTY**

**Funding Opportunity Title:** Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership (TSCTP)

**Deadline for Applications:** July 30, 2021

**Type of Funding:** Economic Support Funds under the Foreign Assistance Act  
FY 2021

**Maximum Award:** \$250,000

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The *United States Embassy in Bamako, Mali* announces an open competition for organizations to submit applications to carry out projects through the Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership (TSCTP) Program. Please follow all instructions below.

**A.1. Background**

Mali is a fragile state that lacks the capacity to effectively provide basic services and combat violent extremism throughout its territory. The lack of government services combined with trans-national organized crime in many areas of Mali has eroded trust in government. Women have been conspicuously under-represented in Mali's governing bodies despite both UN and Malian constitutional requirements for women's participation in all levels of governance. In the fight against terrorism in Mali, women's role in both preventing violent extremism and as members of violent extremist groups has gone largely ignored. In order to support women as effective peace and security leaders, it is critical to understand the role women play in their communities in the context of violent extremist recruitment.

**A.2. Program Goals and Objectives**

**Goal:** The program aims to provide women community leaders with research-based understanding, training, and tools to identify, prevent, and disrupt violent extremism in their communities through community-scale, evidence-based, women-generated solutions.

**Objective 1:** Thirty women community leaders from the fifteen regions of Mali will have the capacity to recognize the drivers of violent extremism, and lead trainings for other women in their communities to recognize the drivers for recruitment as well.

**Objective 2:** Work together with U.S. Embassy Bamako to mentor women leaders to build capacity around program management and project design, so that by September 2022 the community leaders will support a total of six CVE projects in high-risk communities funded through this award.

[Note: This award will make use of data collected in a separate project that will survey Mali's major towns (with a strong focus on geographical areas of implementation) to identify the role that women play in violent extremism both as actors of prevention and as members of VEOs. The survey data will be used for this award, to inform and train women community leaders to recognize the drivers of violent extremism, and lead trainings for other women in their communities to recognize the drivers for recruitment as well. End note.]

### **A.3. Participants and Audiences:**

All participants must be registered Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs) and have been in operation for at least one year to be eligible for funding. Proposals are welcome from community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, and non-governmental organizations that work directly with communities.

## **B. FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION**

Length of performance period: February 2022 – February 2023

Number of awards anticipated: One (1) award

Award amount: \$250,000

Type of Funding: Economic Support Funds

Anticipated program start date: February 2022

**This notice is subject to availability of funding.**

**Funding Instrument Type:** Grant

**Program Performance Period:** Proposed program should be completed in one year.

## **C. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION**

### **1. Eligible Applicants**

Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership (TSCTP) Program will only accept proposals from:

- *Registered not-for-profit organizations, including civil society/non-governmental organizations.*
- *Established, registered grassroots community-based organizations and faith-based organization.*

***For-profit commercial entities and individuals are not eligible to apply.***

## **2. Cost Sharing or Matching is not/not required**

## **3. Other Eligibility Requirements**

Applicants are only allowed to submit one proposal per organization. If more than one proposal is submitted from an organization, all proposals from that institution will be considered ineligible for funding. If you submitted an unsolicited application prior to the publication of this Notice of Funding Opportunity, you must re-submit your application in order to be considered for funding.

To receive an award, all organizations must have a unique entity identifier (Data Universal Numbering System/DUNS number, NCAGE/CAGE code, as well as a valid registration on [www.SAM.gov](http://www.SAM.gov). Please see Section D.6 *Required Registrations* for information on how to obtain these registrations.

## **D. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION**

### **1. Address to Request Application Package**

Application forms required below are available at:  
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf424-family.html>

### **2. Content and Form of Application Submission**

Please follow all instructions below carefully. Proposals that do not meet the requirements of this announcement or fail to comply with the stated requirements will be ineligible.

#### **Content of Application**

Please ensure:

- The proposal clearly addresses the goals, objectives, and indicators of success
- All documents are in English
- All budgets are in U.S. dollars
- All pages are numbered
- All Microsoft Word documents are single-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, with a minimum of 1-inch margins.

The following documents are **required**:

#### **1. Mandatory application forms**

- **SF-424** (*Application for Federal Assistance – organizations*)
- **SF-424A** (*Budget Information for Non-Construction programs*)
- **SF-424B** (*Assurances for Non-Construction programs*)

**2. Summary Coversheet:** Cover sheet stating the applicant name and organization, proposal date, program title, program period (proposed start and end date), and brief purpose of the program.

**3. Proposal (5 pages maximum):** The proposal should contain sufficient information that anyone not familiar with it would understand exactly what the applicant wants to do. You may use your own proposal format, but it must include all the items below.

- **Proposal Summary:** Short narrative that outlines the proposed program, including program objectives, anticipated impact, and indicators of success
- **Introduction to the Organization:** A description of past and present operations, showing ability to carry out the program, including information on all previous grants from the U.S. Embassy and/or U.S. government agencies.
- **Problem Statement:** Clear, concise and well-supported statement of the problem to be addressed and why the proposed program is needed
- **Program Goals and Objectives:** The “goals” describe what the program is intended to achieve. The “objectives” refer to the intermediate accomplishments on the way to the goals. These should be achievable and measurable. “Indicators of Success” should be built into the activities as benchmarks.
- **Program Design, Activities, Evaluation, & Timeline:** How the program is expected to work to solve the stated problem and achieve the goal; how the activities will help achieve the objectives; how the activities will be monitored to ensure they are happening in a timely manner and meet the goals of the grant; and the proposed timeline for the program activities including the dates, times, and locations of planned activities and events.
- **Key Personnel:** Names, titles, roles and experience/qualifications of key personnel involved in the program. What proportion of their time will be used in support of this program?
- **Program Partners:** List the names and type of involvement of key partner organizations and sub-awardees.

**4. Budget Justification Narrative:** After filling out the SF-424A Budget (above), use a separate sheet of paper to describe each of the budget expenses in detail. See section *H. Other Information: Guidelines for Budget Submissions* below for further information.

**5. Attachments:**

- Official permission letters, if required for program activities
- A list of Committee/Board members (names, positions, addresses, phone numbers)
- A copy of your organization registration with the proper authorities
- Curriculum vitae (CV) of project manager(s)
- A list of all people working in the organization (including all staff and volunteers) with names, positions and starting dates
- Copies of your most recent bank statements for every account held by your organization
- A copy of the most recent audited financial statement

**6. Required Registrations:**

All organizations applying for grants must obtain these registrations before sending in their applications. All are free of charge:

- Unique entity identifier from Dun & Bradstreet (DUNS number)
- NCAGE/CAGE code
- [www.SAM.gov](http://www.SAM.gov) registration

Step 1: Apply for a DUNS number and an NCAGE number (these can be completed simultaneously)

**DUNS application:** Organizations must have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number from Dun & Bradstreet. If your organization does not have one already, you may obtain one by calling 1-866-705-5711 or visiting <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>

**NCAGE application:** Application page here:

<https://eportal.nspa.nato.int/AC135Public/scage/CageList.aspx>

Instructions for the NCAGE application process:

<https://eportal.nspa.nato.int/AC135Public/Docs/US%20Instructions%20for%20NSPA%20NCAGE.pdf>

For NCAGE help from within the U.S., call 1-888-227-2423

For NCAGE help from outside the U.S., call 1-269-961-7766

Email [NCAGE@dlis.dla.mil](mailto:NCAGE@dlis.dla.mil) for any problems in getting an NCAGE code.

Step 2: After receiving the NCAGE Code, proceed to register in in **SAM** by logging onto:

<https://www.sam.gov>

(use Chrome browser). Start by creating an individual account, log in, and then proceed to register your entity. **SAM registration** must be renewed annually.

**The U.S. Embassy will verify your SAM.gov registration status before accepting your application.**

## **7. Submission Dates and Times**

Applications are due no later than **July 30, 2021**. Applications received by the U.S. Embassy after the closing date will not be considered.

Complete proposals can be emailed to: [BamakoEcon@state.gov](mailto:BamakoEcon@state.gov)

All applicants will be notified of the status of their proposals after the review process is completed.

## **8. Funding Restrictions**

Any cost incurred in preparation of your proposal or in advance of an award will not be reimbursed.

## **E. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION**

### **1. Criteria**

Each application will be evaluated on the basis of the evaluation criteria outlined below.

**Addresses Purpose of Award:** The program aims to provide women community leaders with research-based understanding, training, and tools to identify, prevent, and disrupt violent extremism in their communities through community-scale, evidence-based, women-generated solutions.

#### **Quality and Feasibility of the Program Idea:**

- The program idea is well developed, with detail about how program activities will be carried out.
- The proposal includes a reasonable implementation timeline.
- Goals and objectives are clearly stated, and program approach is likely to provide maximum impact in achieving the proposed results.
- Applicant demonstrates it is able to measure program success against key indicators and provides milestones to indicate progress toward goals outlined in the proposal.
- Applicant identifies indicators of success and builds these into project.

**Organizational Capacity and Record on Previous Grants:** The organization has expertise in its stated field and has the internal controls in place to manage federal funds. This includes a financial management system and a bank account.

**Budget:** The budget justification is detailed. Costs are reasonable in relation to the proposed activities and anticipated results. The budget is realistic, accounting for all necessary expenses to achieve proposed activities.

### **2. Review and Selection Process**

The Political and Economic Section will conduct a preliminary review of all applications to determine completeness. All proposals that do not meet the funding guidelines/award purpose and proposal criteria will not be reviewed. All proposals that meet the criteria will be reviewed

by the grants committee. The Political and Economic Section will notify each applicant about the status of the organization's proposal.

## **F. FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION**

### **1. Federal Award Notices**

The grant award will be written, signed and awarded by the Grants Officer and administered by his/her Representative. The grant agreement is the authorizing document, and it will be provided to the recipient for review and signature by email. The recipient may only start incurring program expenses beginning on the start date shown on the grant award document signed by the Grants Officer.

If a proposal is selected for funding, the Department of State has no obligation to provide any additional future funding. Renewal of an award to increase funding or extend the period of performance is at the discretion of the Department of State.

Issuance of this NOFO does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the U.S. government, nor does it commit the U.S. government to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals. Further, the U.S. government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals received.

**Payment Method:** Payments will be made by electronic funds transfer in at least one advance, as needed to carry out the project activities and based on agreed milestones.

### **2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements**

**Terms and Conditions:** Before submitting an application, applicants should review all the terms and conditions and required certifications which will apply to this award, to ensure that they will be able to comply. These include: 2 CFR 200, 2 CFR 600, Certifications and Assurances, and the Department of State Standard Terms and Conditions.

### **3. Reporting**

**Reporting Requirements:** Recipients will be required to submit financial reports and program reports. The award document will specify how often these reports must be submitted.

Applicants should be aware of the post award reporting requirements reflected in [2 CFR 200 Appendix XII—Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters](#).

**Foreign Assistance Data Review:** As required by Congress, the Department of State must make progress in its efforts to improve tracking and reporting of foreign assistance data through the Foreign Assistance Data Review (FADR). The FADR requires tracking of foreign assistance activity data from budgeting, planning, and allocation through obligation and disbursement. Successful applicants will be required to report and draw down federal funding based on the

appropriate FADR Data Elements, indicated within their award documentation. In cases of more than one FADR Data Element, typically program or sector and/or regions or country, the successful applicant will be required to maintain separate accounting records.

## **G. FEDERAL AWARDING AGENCY CONTACTS**

If you have any questions about the grant application process, please contact the Political and Economic Section at: [BamakoEcon@state.gov](mailto:BamakoEcon@state.gov).

***Note:** We do not provide any pre-consultation for application related questions that are addressed in the NOFO. Once an application has been submitted, State Department officials will not discuss this competition with applicants until the entire proposal review process is completed.*

## **H. OTHER INFORMATION**

### **Guidelines for Budget Justification**

**Personnel and Fringe Benefits:** Describe the wages, salaries, and benefits of temporary or permanent staff who will be working directly for the applicant on the program, and the percentage of their time that will be spent on the program.

**Travel:** Estimate the costs of travel and per diem for this program, for program staff, consultants or speakers, and participants/beneficiaries. If the program involves international travel, include a brief statement of justification for that travel.

**Equipment:** Describe any machinery, furniture, or other personal property that is required for the program, which has a useful life of more than one year (or a life longer than the duration of the program), and costs at least \$5,000 per unit.

**Supplies:** List and describe all the items and materials, including any computer devices, that are needed for the program. If an item costs more than \$5,000 per unit, then put it in the budget under Equipment.

**Contractual:** Describe goods and services that the applicant plans to acquire through a contract with a vendor. Also describe any sub-awards to non-profit partners that will help carry out the program activities.

**Other Direct Costs:** Describe other costs directly associated with the program, which do not fit in the other categories. For example, shipping costs for materials and equipment. All “Other” or “Miscellaneous” expenses must be itemized and explained.

**Indirect Costs:** These are costs that cannot be linked directly to the program activities, such as overhead costs needed to help keep the organization operating. If your organization has a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate (NICRA) and includes NICRA charges in the budget, attach a



copy of your latest NICRA. Organizations that have never had a NICRA may request indirect costs of 10% of the modified total direct costs as defined in 2 CFR 200.68.

**“Cost Sharing”** refers to contributions from the organization or other entities other than the U.S. Embassy. It also includes in-kind contributions such as volunteers’ time and donated venues.

**Alcoholic Beverages:** Please note that award funds cannot be used for alcoholic beverages.